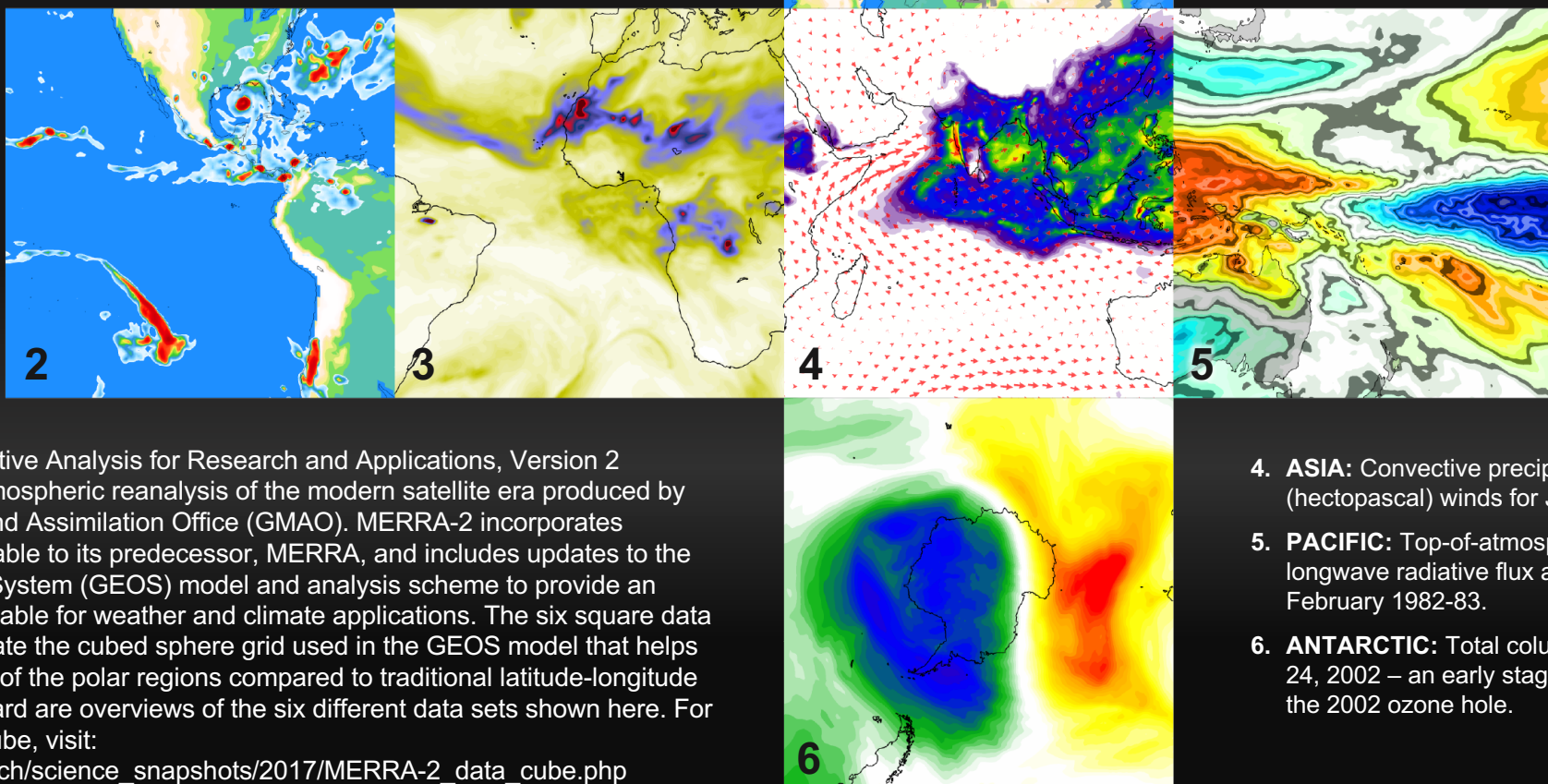


MERRA-2 Data on a Cube



1. **ARCTIC:** Topography and fraction of area covered by sea ice, snow, and mid-level clouds for October 31, 2016.
2. **AMERICAS:** Topography and total precipitation for August 28, 2005.
3. **AFRICA:** Aerosol optical depth for July 21, 2012.

The Modern-Era Retrospective Analysis for Research and Applications, Version 2 (MERRA-2) is the latest atmospheric reanalysis of the modern satellite era produced by NASA's Global Modeling and Assimilation Office (GMAO). MERRA-2 incorporates observation types not available to its predecessor, MERRA, and includes updates to the Goddard Earth Observing System (GEOS) model and analysis scheme to provide an advanced product suite suitable for weather and climate applications. The six square data images, shown here, illustrate the cubed sphere grid used in the GEOS model that helps improve the representation of the polar regions compared to traditional latitude-longitude grids. On the back of this card are overviews of the six different data sets shown here. For a printable version of the cube, visit: gmao.gsfc.nasa.gov/research/science_snapshots/2017/MERRA-2_data_cube.php

4. **ASIA:** Convective precipitation and 850 hPa (hectopascal) winds for July 2010.
5. **PACIFIC:** Top-of-atmosphere outgoing longwave radiative flux anomaly for December-February 1982-83.
6. **ANTARCTIC:** Total column ozone for August 24, 2002 – an early stage in the development of the 2002 ozone hole.